

# GILBERT N. KNIGHT.

Editor and Publisher.

Published according to postal regulations at the post-office at Big Stone Gap as second-class matter.

One Year, \$1.00; Six Months, .60; Three Months, .35.

## RATES OF ADVERTISING.

	12 mos.	6 mos.	3 mos.
1 column	\$100.00	\$50.00	\$25.00
"	75.00	40.00	20.00
"	50.00	25.00	12.00
"	25.00	15.00	8.00
"	15.00	8.50	5.00

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Good morning, a merry Christmas to you.

The Legislature adjourned last Friday to meet again on February 19th.

Lots of people are willing to give advice freely because it costs them nothing.

Many of the large business houses of the city of Mexico still use tallow dips for illuminating purposes.

The Abingdon Virginian very appropriately calls the union depot in Bristol the "union hen house."

Four degrees below zero was where the thermometer went to last Saturday at this place. It was sure enough a cold day.

There are now thirty-nine beet sugar factories in successful operation in the country. The state of Michigan leading with twelve.

Two well developed schemes for establishing banks on the American plan in Manila and Shanghai are said to be under consideration by New York capitalists.

The difference between first class and second class coaches on most European railways is the color of the cushions of the seats—first class usually being red and second class gray.

The Christmas edition of the Bristol News contained twelve pages, and was handsomely illustrated, and well gotten up, and was, no doubt, very much appreciated by the readers of that paper.

Here in the United States 100 years is regarded as very extreme old age. A London cablegram notes the death in Albania of Ismail Hudoj, whose age is given at 160 years. He retained all of his faculties and left 200 descendants.

Charles M. Schwab president of the U. S. Steel Corporation, receives a salary of \$100,000 per year, and gets as much more as a contingent fee, as he receives one fourth of 1 per cent of all the corporation may earn over its full charges.

Asia has the highest mountains in the world, but the highest waterfall is in the state of Durango, Mexico. It was discovered by a company of mine prospectors about ten years ago, whose attention was directed to the locality by the roar of the waters. The fall has a height of at least 3,000 feet.

We have sent out during the past week a statement to those of our subscribers who are in arrears. You could not wish us a happier Christmas or happier New Year than remitting to us the amount you owe on subscription. Let all in arrears pay up and let's begin the New Year even.

A most marvelous achievement was the recent communication by wireless telegraph between the two sister ships Lucania and Campanis, in mid-ocean, eastward and westward bound. The distance between them was 150 miles, and the communication was kept up for three hours, the passengers exchanging the news of two continents.

The losses in the United States and Canada for the year to December 1, according to the New York Journal of Commerce aggregate \$150,874,050, against \$151,941,550 in the eleven months of 1899. The year is thus likely to prove about as unpropitious for the fire insurance companies as that of 1900, which included two especially destructive conflagrations at Ottawa, Hull, Ontario, and on the coast front at Hoboken, N. J.

An exchange says cheerfully is mostly the preliminary skirmish before the regular battle begins.

Christmas time is the time, if there ever was a special time, for being good. And—out is being good? It is being kind.

The original engineering estimate of the cost of Mexico's trans-Siberian railroad was \$150,250,000, but that has been raised now to \$550,000,000. The first estimate, by the way, is almost identical with the estimate of the cost of our Nicaraguan canal.—Louisville Courier Journal.

Chicago today is a city of nearly 2,000,000 inhabitants. Do you know what these figures mean? They mean that within the borders of the municipality are more people than live in either the state of Georgia, or Minnesota, or New Jersey, or Virginia, or Wisconsin. They mean that there are gathered together more people than occupy Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Maine and Oregon combined. Greater New York is about twice the size of Chicago.

A dispatch from Washington says: There are seven election cases to be adjudicated and passed upon by the Elections Committee of the House of Representatives and of this number two cases come from Virginia. In the Fourth District of Virginia C. E. Wilson contests the seat of Francis R. Lassiter, and Judge Rhine's election in the Ninth Virginia District was contested "till death, by James A. Walker." Mr. Walker is dead; now the problem arises as to whether the contest can go on. It is an unusual case. Is it possible for the heirs of Walker to prosecute the case with the hope of ousting the sitting member for the purpose only of securing the salary and other emoluments for the estate of the deceased? It is not probable that the Elections Committee will entertain for a moment the right of the executor of Walker's estate to claim a seat for a dead man, but Congress may see fit to appropriate a sum to reimburse the heirs of Mr. Walker for expenses incurred in the contest.

## THE PRESS.

The Norfolk & Western railway has ordered 500 eighty thousand pound capacity box cars, 500 eighty thousand pound capacity coal gondolas, and 250 stock cars. As soon as these orders are out of the way 1,600 more eighty thousand pound capacity coal cars will be ordered. The most serious trouble here in Knoxville right now, especially as regards the coal interest, is the shortage of cars. The Southern railway should make up the deficiency as it is apparent that more railroad facilities are needed.—Knoxville Sentinel.

President Roosevelt made a most admirable suggestion when in his message he recommended that our sailors be kept at sea sailing our war vessels and learning to handle them, and that all work in the Navy Department which could be done by civilians be turned over to the latter. This policy would not only enable a smaller number of sailors to do the work, but they also would be more efficient. The employment of officers on shore duty, in most cases, leads to favoritism, and to it is largely due the disgruntled rings which have evidently grown on our navy like barnacles, much to the detriment of the service. There are of course duties which have to be done on shore, and which must be given, from their nature, to sailors. But in the great majority of cases the posts which are now being filled in the department by officers of the navy could be just as well filled by civilians. The officers, thus freed, could be employed at sea in perfecting themselves in their profession, instead of losing, by idleness, the high training which it has cost the government so great a sum to give them.—Nashville News.

## COLD COMFORT.

The melancholy days are upon us when the head of the house awakes to find the pipes frozen and his wife in tears. Yes, these are the days when he who layeth low until breakfast has to get himself up and descend into the cellar to repair the damage. And while he exclaims lovingly the frozen pipes and says warm things calculated to thaw the frozenness thereof, the good wife above turneth the kettle of hot water upon the apartment wherefrom the pipe protrudeth and catcheth the husband below the scalp. Yes, verily, these be melancholy days. Very melancholy. But there is one happy. It is he who goeth about asking if it is cold enough. What would the winter time be without this cheerful gentleman?—Roanoke Times.

## THE REBUILDING OF GALVESTON.

It is to be hoped that certain stories recently sent out of Galveston, Texas, are either untrue or exaggerated. These rumors convey the impression that the island upon which the city is located is gradually sinking into the Gulf of Mexico and that in a few years there will be nothing of this flourishing city left above the waves. In contradiction to these dismal

stories which were disseminated by Houston over a year ago, during the past twelve months, spent more than \$5,000,000 in repairing the damages of wind and flood.

Immense business blocks, big grain elevators, huge storehouses, fine churches, palatial residences and costly theaters and public buildings have been erected and today Galveston stands as a much finer and more imposing city than it was before the dreadful havoc was wrought by the tidal waves that swept over it.

In addition to the rebuilding it is stated that Galveston's export trade during the past year has exceeded \$100,000,000 and been \$16,000,000 greater than for any year preceding the disaster.

The Texans who have gone to work so hopefully and so energetically to rebuild the city and to wipe out evidences of the calamity that fell upon them—at least as far as they are related to the destruction of the property—deserve the highest credit. For the fearful loss of life there can be only the relief that time affords, but in the hours of their bereavement the people of Galveston have exhibited the American spirit at its best.

## FROM STONEGA.

Correspondence of The Big Stone Gap News.

STONEGA, Va., Dec. 23.—If Santa Claus don't engage an assistant for this occasion, he will be behind time in filling his appointments.

The railroads are wishing that Santa would bring them a few thousand cars.

From Xmas preliminaries it looks as if the stockings would have to be enlarged.

Safe blowers find it inconvenient to wait for Santa Claus.

There can be no complaint of inattention to duty on the part of winter.

Though the cost of living is higher it is worth more to live than it used to be.

Only eight days more until the good resolutions and the diaries will start.

"How we Waited for Santa Claus" is the title of the Santa Claus now being rehearsed by the Stonega Sunday School. It will be presented on Xmas day in the afternoon at 3:30 o'clock in the church. The juveniles have taken their parts very creditably and Clara Lilly Howarth as "Flora," and little Bessie Young as "Nettie," are exceptionally good. The Sewing Circle is true to life and the young ladies' cast in this part are doing admirably. The boys brigade, well we won't pass judgment on them till next week, as this is their first experience and a few of them are slow to catch on, but the fairies are just too cute for anything else and if there should be any lack in the boys, they will make up for it. A variable Jack Frost and Santa Claus arrive near the close and produce a merry and happy ending when good children will receive their treat.

Wm. Guine and Edna Galloway were married in the home of bride's parents on Thursday evening 19th inst., in the presence of a large circle of friends.

Dr. L. J. C. Bailey left Stonega Saturday evening en route for Toronto, where he is to wed Miss Jean Cruikshank, M. D., on Xmas day at high noon. The bridal tour will consist of an extended trip through the South as far as New Orleans, returning by way of New York.

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Local and Otherwise.

About four inches of the beautiful fell at this place Sunday night.

There will be two Christmas trees at this place this week. The exercises at the M. E. Church will take place Tuesday at 8 p. m. and at the Southern M. E. Church on Tuesday night. The trees will only contain presents for the members of the Sunday schools.

The new hotel came near being burned Saturday night at 8 o'clock. The fire originated in the basement from the heater pipes, but was discovered in time to save the building. The hotel was built during the present year by Mr. N. B. Dotson at a cost of about \$7,000 and is at present occupied by Dr. Ash, who has been running a first class hostelry.

S. W. Thacker returned from Dickenson county Saturday.

F. S. Padlock spent a few days at Bluefield last week.

N. B. Freeman was in town Monday.

## Child Died.

Little Lola Kilgore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Kilgore, died of fever Thursday night and was buried Friday. She was about 6 years of age and a very bright little girl and will be sadly missed by her relatives. Although the weather was extremely cold there was a large crowd at the funeral services, which were held at the M. E. Church and conducted by Revs. Suthers and Kilgore.

## Tragedy at Toms Creek.

On last Friday at Toms Creek at the office of the Craus Nest Coal and Coke Co., Robert Foy, a negro, shot Mr. Dayton H. Miller and Mr. Charles Williams, both white men, and on Saturday night at 7 p. m. Mr. Miller died.

The negro was in the office of the company making a settlement, and the trouble came up over some house rent. The negro had rented a house and claimed he had not lived in it, and when the amount of the rent was deducted from his wages he became very abusive, and Mr. Miller, who was treasurer of the company, ordered him out of the house. He shot him in the breast with the above result.

We understand the negro made some threats previous to the shooting against Mr. Miller, and the chances are he will be hung, provided a mob, which is expected any time, does not Lynch him. The negro is in jail at this place and the officers would doubtless make a stubborn resistance should a mob attack the jail, but we doubt if any guard could save him should a determined mob appear.

We understand that Mr. Williams will recover.

Mr. Miller was a native of Philadelphia and a brother to Mr. Robert Miller, who died at Coeburn about three years ago.

## EXCURSION RATES.

Christmas and New Year Holiday Excursion Rates via Norfolk and Western Railway. Tickets on sale Dec. 21st to 25th and Dec. 29th to January 1st from all stations, limited to January 3rd, 1902. W. B. BRYAN, Ticket Agent.

## FOR SALE.

We have for sale hay, chop and even at reasonable prices. Call and see us. We are also dealers in coal. J. B. PATTERSON & Co.

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Gives Capitalized Results by preparing for business life and insuring employment to the ambitious and worthy. \$100

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for Civil Service positions under Government Selection—prepare public school teachers to teach our branches in other Business Colleges—and prepare Stenographers and Book-keepers for the best positions with the best business firms.

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## A toad under a harrow

suffers no more than the faithful horse that is tortured with Spavins, Swinney, Harrow Sore, Sprains, etc. Most horse owners know this and apply the kind of sympathy that heals, known far and wide as

## Mexican Mustang Liniment

Never fails—not even in the most aggravated cases. Cures caked udder in cows quicker than any known remedy. Hardly a disease peculiar to muscle, skin or joints that cannot be cured by it.

is the best remedy on the market for Wind Colds, Sprains and Skin Lumps. It keeps horses and mules in condition.

## Mexican Mustang Liniment

## Don't Forget The Place.

Currants, Raisins, Citron, Spices; Ginger, &c., for Xmas Fruit Cakes.

Lemons, Maliga Grapes, Apples, Bon Bons and Chocolate, Good Candy 3 lbs for 25 cents.

Full line of Christmas Candies.

Fire Works, everything you want.

Place your Xmas orders and goods will be reserved for you.

A merry Xmas and happy new year to you.

Yours to please,

Post Office Building.  
Phone 67, 2 rings.

# MUNCY.

## Big Stone Gap Woolen Mills.

We have taken charge of the Big Stone Gap Woolen Mills and will operate them in connection with our store, and will pay the highest market price for wool in exchange for merchandise and products of the mill.

We carry one of the most complete and up-to-date line of

## Clothing, Dry Goods, Notions, Hats, Caps, Ladies' Trimmed Hats, and Groceries,

of any store in this section, and we invite the public to call and examine our goods and prices before buying elsewhere.

We also carry a complete line of

## Undertaker's Goods, Carpets, Mattings, Trunks and Valises,

All our goods are first-class and up-to-date. We pay highest prices for Country Produce. Be buy Salt, Hay and Corn by the car load and are enabled to sell very cheap.

Give us a call.

## HEAD, SLOAN & TAYLOR,

### BIG STONE GAP, VA.

## Dodge's Business College.

### TAZEWELL, VA.

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